

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended for clarity. Claims 4 and 13 are amended to obviate informalities. Claims 15 and 16 are amended to recite a computer-readable storage medium.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claim 4. Claim 4 is amended to obviate an informality. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 4 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §101. Claims 15 and 16 are amended to recite a computer-readable storage medium. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §101 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7 and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,137,903 to Dichter in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,110,597 to Goldsmith; and rejects claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dichter and Goldsmith and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,819,805 to Usikov. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Regarding independent claims 1, 13 and 15, the Office Action asserts that Dichter discloses all recited elements, except for selecting plural correcting object images from plural images. The Office Action asserts that Goldsmith discloses such a missing feature at col. 7, line 65. The Office Action further asserts that one of ordinary skill would have been motivated to combine Goldsmith with Dichter to render obvious the subject matter recited in independent claims 1, 13 and 15. However, this rejection is unreasonable.

The plural images asserted in the Office Action are reference images ("color-correct" images) used for calculating an average for a to-be-corrected image to conform to. See col. 7, line 65 - col. 8, line 4. These plural images are not to-be-corrected images, or images from which to-be-corrected images are selected. Specifically, the plural images disclosed in

Goldsmith are "good images." They are not images that need to be corrected. Thus, these plural images do not correspond to the recited "plural images" from which "plural correcting object images as a correcting object" are selected.

In view of the above, Goldsmith does not supply the subject matter lacking in Dichter. Also, Usikov does not supply the subject matter lacking in Dichter. Thus, Dichter, Goldsmith and Usikov, either individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1, 13 and 15, and claims 2-12, 14 and 16 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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